

P.S.
Please do
come down
Answer soon.

Lawn Ridge, Illinois
2-5-1894

Dearest! —

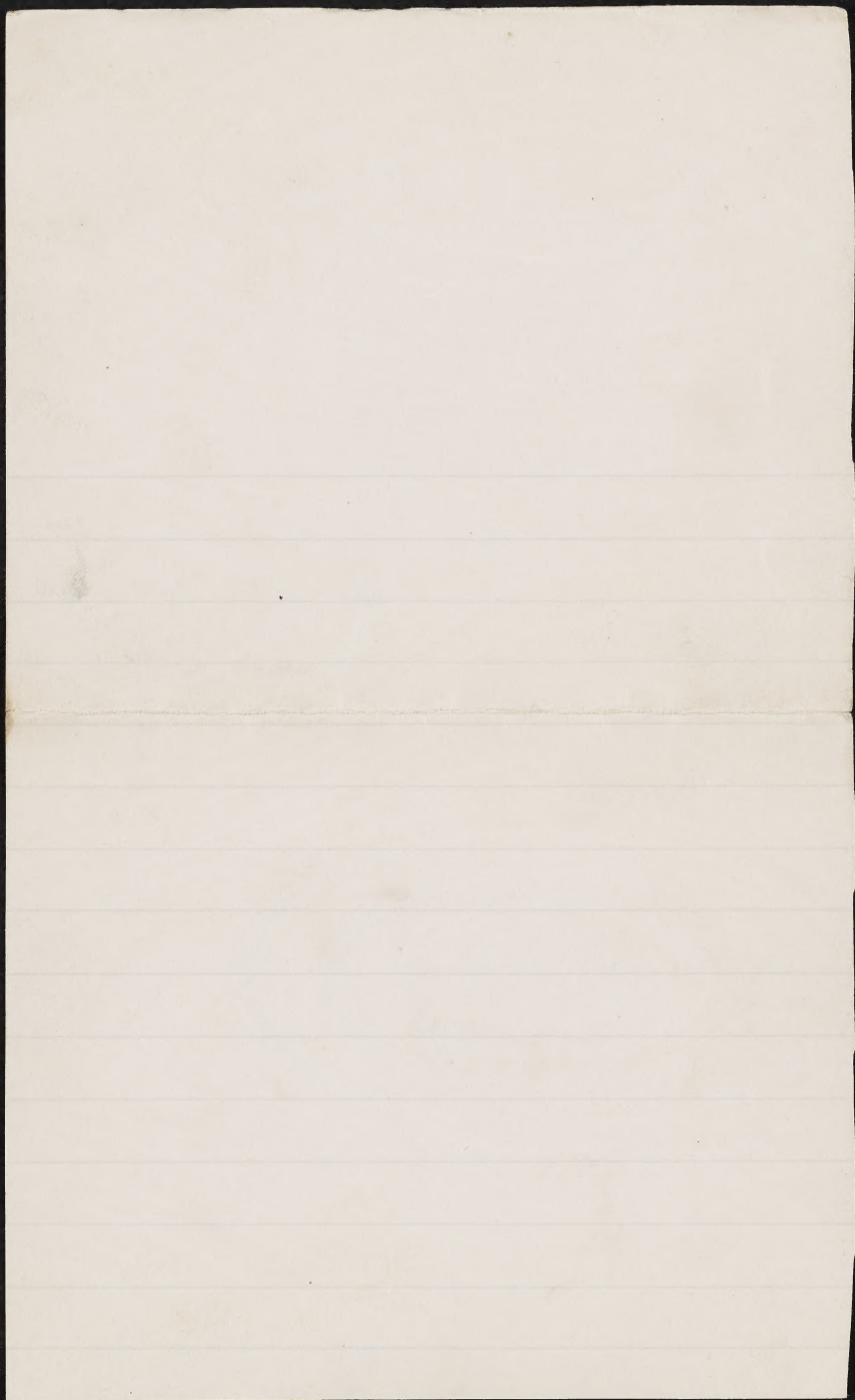
I don't think
you will be surprised
at all when you ^{receive}
this letter — You must
know I am feeling
terrible bad not see-
ing or hearing from
you for so long — I
tried to keep a light
heart and full of hope
till Sunday night —
Thinking I would see

you then - What in
the world is it that's
keeping you from com-
ing down or writing?
is it any thing I have
said or did? - Please,
do not keep me in
suspense, - but, tell
me; - Dearest, I have
thought many, many
times of our meeting
and parting the last
time you were down.
Have you? - if you
haven't I hope that
these few lines will
call it to your mind
How happy I were, -
the thought did not

enter my mind ^{that}
I would suffer as I
have before I would
see you again. - I
did not sleep hardly
any last night ^{and}
to-day I am feeling
awful. - I hope ^{that}
you may never suffer
as I am. - Oh! dear
you are every thing
that the world holds
bright, beautiful, ^{and}
dear, I can never
forget you. - Take
these words to your
heart. - Joe, you have
feeling enough for
me, - Haven't you? - to

come and see me as
soon as you receive ^{this}
or write and tell me
your reason for not
doing so - what=ever
it may be. - Are you
going to Iowa? - Dearest,
you will not go with-
out coming to see me
before you go. - will you?
- it would just break
my heart if you did.
Joe, I love you. - and I
feel that I have did all
in my power now. -
I leave the rest to you. -
Joe, what was the reason
you did not come down
the Thursday you said
you would? ^{your letter I}
looked for you ^{that} Friday
forenoon to go over to
your Father's. - lovingly. Jda.

"P. S. - I fear you will
think me a very slovenly
writer, with my postscripts
but I forgot to say that
I don't suppose you
have had any pains
for the last four weeks
well dear I have them
all at heart I shall
remember the touch of
your sweet lips on
my dying bed - I am
making a dress for
Mollie Smith and I
do not feel one bit
like sewing
B. B. C. Y. D. K.





Mr J. W. Johnston,
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